

REMARKS

The present Amendment is in response to the Official Action mailed 1 October 2003, comprising a restriction requirement, and is intended to place the application in better condition for examination. Favorable consideration and
5 allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

In response to the restriction requirement referred to above, Applicants hereby elect group I, directed to claims 1 - 19 and 33, without traverse.

The election of group I is deemed to be fully responsive to the outstanding Official Action.

10 Claims 20 - 32 and 34, which do not belong to the elected group I, have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled claims in the context of a divisional application.

New claims 35 - 41 have been added. New claims 35 - 41 are directed to group I.

15 Thus, claims 1 - 19, 33 and 35 - 41 are now pending in the application.

Claim 7 has been amended to remove recitation of "immediately" that appears in claim 8 which depends from claim 7. The amendment to claim 7 is not believed to affect patentability thereof.

20 Claim 18 has been amended for clarification. The amendments to claim 18 are not believed to affect patentability thereof.

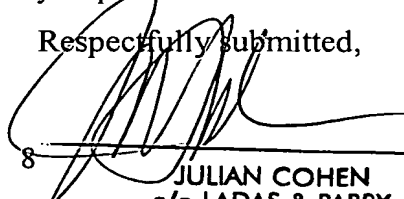
New claims 35 - 37 depend directly or indirectly from claim 33 and recite additional patentable subject matter. New claims 35 - 37 are apparatus claims that correspond to originally filed claims 11, 12 and 18 respectively.

25 New claim 38 corresponds to originally filed claims 1 and 33.

New claims 39 - 41 depend from claim 38 and correspond to originally filed claims 11, 12, and 18 respectively.

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks the application is now deemed in better condition for examination. Favorable consideration and
30 allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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JULIAN COHEN
c/o LADAS & PARRY
26 WEST 61st STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10023
Reg. No. 20302 (212) 708-1887